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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 MCT-01 SSM-03 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
TRSE-00 /064 W
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O 240104Z NOV 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7845
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4963

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAS: PORG, UNGA, XF
SUBJ: AMB. MEGUID REFLECTS ON POST-VISIT EXPECTATIONS

1. AFTER DELIVERING HIS STATEMENT ON NOVEMBER 23 IN THE PLENARY DEBATE ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, EGYPTIAN PERM REP MEGUID MET BRIEFLY WITH AMB. LEONARD. MEGUID EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR LEONARD'S PRAISE OF MEGUID'S CONSTRUCTIVE SPEECH (SEPTEL). MEGUID COMMENTED THAT HIS STATEMENT WAS WITHOUT RECRIMINATIONS AND IN FACT SYRIAN AMB. ALLAF HAD SAID HE WAS SORRY FOR HIS REMARKS (USUN 4912) AND INDEED NO PERSONAL OFFENSE WAS INTENDED. ALLAF NOTED WITH REGARD TO HIS STATEMENT THAT HE WAS INSTRUCTED BY DAMASCUS.

2. MEGUID, RETURNING TO HIS OWN STATEMENT, SAID HE WAS GLAD AMB. YOUNG AND CONGRESSMAN WOLFF HAD BEEN PRESENT. MEGUID CONTINUED THAT HIS WAS NOW A CRUCIAL MOMENT FOR ISRAEL TO TAKE SOME STEP. HE REITERATED THAT THE PEACE
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PROCESS AND THE OVERRIDING PURPOSE OF SADAT'S VISIT WOULDBE FURTHERED NARKEDLY IF ISRAEL WOULD NOW MAKE A SIGNIFICANT GESTURE. MEGUID OFFERED AS AN EXAMPLE THAT ISRAEL COULD INDICATE ITS ACCEPTANCE OF A LOW-LEVEL PLO PERSONALITY IN THE UNITED ARAB DELEGATION; THIS WOULD BE A "MASTERSTROKE."

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3. AMB. MEGUID SAID HE HAD SPOKEN WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER BOUTROS GHALI AND FOUND LATTER IN OPTIMISTIC,
BYOYANT MOOD. THEY HAD NOT EXCHANGED VIEWS ON SUBSTANCE,
HOWEVER WE ASSUME MEGUID REVIEWED THE OUTLINE OF HIS
STATEMENT BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN REPLY TO LEONARD'S
QUERY ON THE PLO OBSERVER'S STATEMENT DURING THE MORNING
SESSION, MEGUID SAID THE PLO OBSERVER WAS FOLLOWING
INSTRUCTIONS FROM BEIRUT TO KEEP HIS REMARKS ALONG FAMILIAR LINES
AND SUBDUED. MEGUID COMMENTED THAT THE PLO DOES NOT SEEK
TO CUT ITS TIES WITH EGYPT. MOREOVER, IT IS IMPORTANT
NOT TO WEAKEN OR TO DESTROY ARAFAT AT THIS TIME. HE
CONCLUDED THAT IN HIS VIEW, ONLY ARAFAT MAY HAVE THE
PERSONAL COURAGE AND POLITICAL STRENGTH TO ACT IN POSITIVE
MANNER. IT IS ESSENTIAL HE BE KEPT IN THE PICTURE.
YOUNG

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Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Subject: AMB. MEGUID REFLECTS ON POST-VISIT EXPECTATIONS
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